

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1, 4, 5 and 9-31 will be pending in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

Claim for Benefit of Priority/Certified Copy

Page 2, the Office Action Summary, acknowledges applicants' claim for benefit of priority of three Japanese applications filed in 2002 and 2003 but indicates that "none" of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application. The examiner is requested to explore this further.

Attached hereto is a Notification concerning submission of priority document in which the International Bureau confirms receipt during international processing of all three Japanese priority applications. This document demonstrates that applicants provided a certified copy to the Receiving Office under PCT Rule 17 and the International Bureau should have forwarded a copy to each of the designated offices. See also M.P.E.P. § 1893.03(c). Therefore, in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1896 III, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consult with the Special Program Examiner in his/her Technology Center to obtain a certified copy of the priority document. Also see PCT Rule 17.2 which states, "No such Office shall ask the applicant himself to furnish it with a copy."

Acknowledgement of receipt of the certified copies of the three priority applications is again requested.

Amendments to the Claims

The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 2, 3 and 7. As a consequence of these amendments claims 2, 3 and 6-8 have been canceled.

A second set of claims has been added, new claims 17 incorporating the subject matter of original claims 1 and 4 and also specifies the nature of the inorganic pigment [B] based upon the working examples of this application. New claims 18-31 correspond to original claims 2, 3 and 5-16, respectively, but dependent from new independent claim 17. Basis for these amendments to the claims and new claims will be apparent from the above discussion.

Response to Prior Art-Based Rejections

Original claims 1-6, 9-11 and 14-16 stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Matsumoto et al JP 2000-256529. Counsel notes that claim 7 is not included in this rejection but the subject matter of claim 7 has been incorporated into claim 1 thus claims 1, 4, 5 and 9-16 are by definition directed to novel subject matter. The same applies to claims 17-31 as Matsumoto does not describe the inorganic pigments employed as specified in claim 17.

This leaves for consideration the rejection of claims 7-8 as allegedly being "obvious" over Matsumoto, discussed above, in view of Sliwinski et al U.S. 6,454,848. For the examiner's convenience attached is a full English translation of the Matsumoto reference and it is based upon this English translation that the following comments and observations are offered:

Matsumoto describes a light resistant rubber-modified styrenic resin composition comprising (A) 100 parts by weight of a diene-based rubber-modified styrene-based resin, (B) 4 to 20 parts by weight of a coloring agent (which is limited to an alumina-treated product when titanium oxide is used as the coloring agent), and (C) 0.4 to 5 parts by weight of a hindered amine and/or a UV absorbing agent.

The object of Matsumoto is to improve light resistance of a diene-based rubber-modified styrene-based resin. The above coloring agent (B) is a usual coloring agent.

There is no description nor suggestion that by blending a specific inorganic pigment having the specific infrared-reflecting property to the specific resin in the specific amount, low-heat accumulating properties can be attained.

Sliwinski discloses a solid solution comprising a host component having the corundum-hematite crystalline structure, the host component composed of iron oxide, and a guest component, the guest component is incorporated into the crystalline lattice structure of the host component, the guest component comprising metal oxides or precursors thereof having as cations the elements aluminum, chrome, and titanium.

Sliwinski's solid solution is said to be useful as an inorganic color pigment. The solid solution has high reflectivity in the near infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. As such, the solid solution is used as a coloring pigment for reducing heat derived from infrared and lower due to its high reflectivity in the near infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

As to claim 1 (as above amended) in Sliwinski there is no description of using the specific resin according to the present invention. As to claim 17, there is no description of using the specific coloring pigment according to the present invention.

The following Table 1 shows the combination of components in Sliwinski.

TABLE 1

Ex.	Cr	Fe	Al	Ti	Mo	B	Bi	Sn	Si	Mg	In	La	Nd
1	X	X	X	X									
2	X	X	X	X									
3	X	X	X	X	X								
4	X	X		X		X							
5	X	X		X			X						
6	X	X	X					X					
7	X	X	X						X				
8	X		X	X						X			
9	X	X		X							X		
10	X	X		X								X	
11	X	X		X									X
12	X	X	X	X									
13	X	X	X	X									
14	X	X											
15	X	X	X	X									
16	X	X	X	X									
17	X	X	X	X	X								
18	X	X	X	X	X								
19	X	X	X	X	X								
20	X	X	X	X	X								
21	X	X	X	X									

X: Used

As seen from the above Table 1, there is no combination in the Examples of Sliwinski:

(B-2) a composite oxide of Fe and Mn

(B-3) a composite oxide of Cu, Cr and Mn, nor

(B-4) a composite oxide of Ni, Co, Fe and Cr.

Further, the problems in the art solved by the resin compositions of the present invention are different between Matsumoto and Sliwinski and there is no motivation of combining Matsumoto and Sliwinski.

For the above reasons it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application define inventive subject matter. Reconsideration and allowance are solicited.

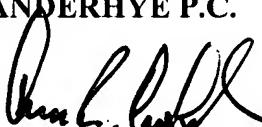
Information Disclosure Statement

Submitted concurrently with this Amendment is an Information Disclosure Statement citing two documents that were considered during the examination of one of the underlying JP priority applications. Please consider this IDS when considering this Amendment and response.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


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